western university, was hunting desperately for a job. Finally he was offered one in a gas station. This humiliation was the last blow—he went home and took his life.

Yet we have met many American boys, some with a better educational and social background, working unconcernedly during their vacations at filling stations or on construction of roads and buildings, proud of their ability to keep pace with strong Negro youths. In that work they were testing not only their muscles and physical endurance but also their moral strength, the discipline and suppleness of their minds. This was the school, though perhaps not the best conceivable, for absorbing the most valuable heritage of American civilization—respect for work and one's fellow man—and learning at the same time how to get along with people and make friends. Another aspect of American life that has impressed me is that of having young boys work on newspaper routes—especially sons of comparatively well-to-do parents who care little about the money the boys earn but value their experience, as a means of developing their sense of responsibility, discipline, independence in handling money, and, above all, respect for work.

The passion of adults to work with their hands—to wash their cars, make necessary repairs and occasional alterations in their homes, and so on—stems from a deeper source. But practice of "do-it-yourself" would not have taken root and spread so widely if it had not been supported by the traditional respect for labor. People born in this carefree land take it for granted that a man's natural pastime during the weekend is to work, stripped to the waist, under his car, on the lawn, in the basement workshop, or on the roof of his house. The picture of a suburban American residential section on summer weekends is striking to a European. The U. S. Information Service is remiss in not having shown this aspect of the American scene: a banker, a professor, a high official, and, on the other hand, a grocer, a factory worker, a milkman, a mailman, a taxi driver—all at work in their spare time, all in the same attire—and let the reader guess who is who among them!

SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY

What is the prevailing social and political philosophy in this country among people of different origin and with different cultural roots? So many voluminous treatises have been produced on this topic here and abroad that I do not dare join in the chorus. Least of all do I pretend to have discovered the sources of the characteristic features of the American social and economic system, and its political habits and in-